

POCAHONTAS TIMES.

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MARLINTON, WEST VIRGINIA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1894.

\$1.00 IN ADVANCE.

Official Directory of Pocahontas.

Judge of Circuit Court, A. N. Campbell.
Prosecuting Attorney, L. M. McClintic.
Sheriff, J. C. Arbogast.
Deputy Sheriff, Robt. K. Burns.
Clk Co. Court, S. L. Brown.
Clk Cir. Court, J. H. Patterson.
Assessor, C. O. Arbogast.
Com'r's Co. Ct. (C. E. Beard, G. M. Kee, Amos Barlow.)
Co. Surveyor, Geo. Baxter.
Coroner, Geo. P. Moore.
Justices: A. C. L. Gatewood, Split Rock—Chas Cook, Edray—W. H. Grose, Huntersville—Jno R Taylor, Dunmore—G. R. Curry, Academy—Thos Braffy, Lobelia.

THE COURTS.

Circuit Court convenes on the first Tuesday in April, 3rd Tuesday in June and 5th Tuesday in October.
County Court convenes on the 1st Tuesday in January, March, October and second Tuesday in July July is levy term.

N. C. McNEIL,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Marlinton, West Va.

Will practice in the Courts of Pocahontas and adjoining Counties, and in the Court of Appeals of the State of West Virginia.

L. M. McCLINTIC,
Attorney-at-Law,
Marlinton, W. Va.

Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and in the Supreme court of Appeals.

H. S. RUCKER,
Atty.-at-Law & Notary Public,
Huntersville, W. Va.

Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas county and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.

J. W. ARBUCKLE,

Attorney-at-Law,
Marlinton, W. Va.

Prompt and careful attention given to all legal business.

ANDREW PRICE,
Attorney-at-law,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

Will be found at Times Office.

D. R. O. J. CAMPBELL,
DENTIST,
Monterey, Va.

Will visit Pocahontas County, at least, twice a year.
The exact date of his visits will appear in this paper.

D. R. J. H. WEYMOUTH,
RESIDENT DENTIST,
Beverly, W. Va.

Will visit Pocahontas County every Spring and Fall. The exact date of each visit will appear in THE TIMES.

J. M. CUNNINGHAM, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
Office next door to H. A. Yeager's Hotel. Residence opposite Hotel. All calls promptly answered.

J. M. BARNETT, M. D.,
has located at
BROST, W. VA.
Calls promptly answered.

C. B. SWECKER,
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Sell Coal, Mineral and Timber Lands. Farms and Town Lots a specialty. 21 years in the business. Correspondence solicited. Reference furnished. Postoffice—Dunmore, W. Va., or Alexander, W. Va.

M. F. GIESEY,
Architect and Superintendent,
Room, 19, Beilly Block,
Wheeling, W. Va.

The School Teacher.

Just now the schools all over the country are in full blast. In driving by the neat school-houses, the passer sees a pair of bright eyes peering through the glass, risking the chance of "catching it" to vary the monotony by seeing who is going by. The teacher has heard the sound of wheels, too, and is dying to know who it is, and perhaps gets up and looks, and the little one then draws a sigh of relief, knowing the danger of "catching it" is past.

If the school is alive to what is passing on the outside of the little frame building, it is equally on the alert to take in anything of ordinary interest on the inside. A boy who can do things and make faces when "the teacher's" back is turned, is an indispensable member of the fraternity, and even the good little girl who stares at the offender out of her big eyes, forgets that she is tired, in contemplating the enormity of his crimes.

The school teacher's life goes on in this monotonous way from day to day, each alike, and in after years if he allows himself to think on his wasted past, the days are all a confused jumble, with nothing to distinguish one day from another.

The serious question now-a-days is that the school teacher considers himself ill-paid, and the taxpayers that the money is thrown away. There is no manner of doubt that it takes as much *finesse* to run a district school as it does to govern a state. The teacher has to contend against ignorance

and his whole life is kept from doing or saying things, hampered and hindered by the continual presentation of "how it would sound" after being repeated by the children at home. It is not much wonder that the teacher complains that he is poorly paid in Pocahontas.

The tax-payer complains and says that it takes as much to support a school which is attended by one-third of the children of the neighborhood, as it would were double the number of pupils present. Now not one-third of the children of the county are present daily at the free schools. The teacher wants to have the biggest school possible. He also wants a school-year long enough to justify him in making teaching the work of his life. Under the present four months school, the majority of the the teachers are young, and this has been the state of the case for years. They teach a year or two, and the profession offering no inducements, we lose them just when they begin to be valuable.

We do not wish to call our young teachers "adventurers," but under the present system, how many of those teaching to-day will be teaching two years from now? A small minority!

What course pursued would result in pleasing the teacher and tax-payer alike? Would not a compulsory system of education do this for us as it has done for older States. The schools then would do twice as much good as now, the money seem less like wasted money; and then to insure our having proficient teachers let the school-year be lengthed to six months, or longer.

It does seem that the schools cannot go on as they have been. The system must be improved or

abandoned. With two-thirds of the children out of school, it seems unfair that this enormous outlay of money should go to benefit one-third of the people. The tax-payer has a right to demand that his money be better applied, and that more people be reached in its expenditure. Free the teacher from the mercy of the whims of his patrons. Help him to the extent that he will only have to work in the school-room, and that alone will cause fewer of them to drop the profession. Improve the free schools or abandon them!

Let us see what the 'new brooms' in the Legislature will do.

An Experience.

The following is the experience as given by an old Confederate veteran, of this county, in an experience meeting. It must be remembered that this took place in church, and while it was irresistably funny to the hearers, the old man himself was devoutly doing his duty as a christian:

"Pears like we have hard times now, 'pears like, these days people don't know what hard times is—durin' the war, 'pears like, we had hard times to serve the Lawd—'pears like when we was camped way down yander, we had a lot of devilish fellows in camp, 'pears like they didn't care what they done—hard time to serve the Lawd—'pears like we had to dig great holes and dig canteens of powder and time to serve the Lawd—'pears like you my young folks, you serve the Lawd there."

Some little laughter was heard—"I tell you it may be funny to you now, but it wasn't funny to us then."

The celebrated Mr. Stead, the London editor, whose writings have such influence on the spirit of the age, recently explained what he believed was the secret of his editorial power. He thinks there can be no power unless the intellect is imbued with moral force, and works in lines consistent with the purposes of Him, who does according to his will among the dwellers of the earth. The first chapter of Josiah he has chosen for his Mentor, and has endeavoured by patient examination to "hear and understand" its import. The theme of this chapter is found in verses 16-17, "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow." His idea is that this the type of citizenship at which the moral forces are aiming and being supported by the all-powerful Ruler of the universe, success is assured to those in harmony.

It seems too strange to be true yet the time is not very far removed, when chemistry will make all kinds of food from wheat and corn, no more need for butchers; heat and power will be drawn from the interior of the earth or supplied by dynamos run by streams and tides; silk, wool, and cotton be made from wood-pulp much cheaper than now produced; and aluminum, be cheaper than timber for houses. Whoever has genius to grasp the coming situation, and teach the people having so much leisure, how to be saved from anarchy and self destruction, will be the great man of the future.

The Letter "A."

The most wonderful of all inventions is that of speech, the next most wonderful is the discovery of the alphabet, that gives the average child so much trouble. The history of the a b c brings to our consideration a discovery of the most complicated character and one of the most fruitful in beneficial results of all the past attainments of the human intellect.

The alphabet learned by the Pocahontas boy or girl is what was learned by the Roman youth when they were preparing to be the foremost orators, poets, and generals of the world. The Roman alphabet was from the Greek, and the Greeks received theirs from the Phoenicians by way of adaptation. Thus far the history seems very plain. But when it goes back of that and the question comes up where did the Phoenicians get their alphabet. The Hittites and the wandering Arabians seem to some writers to have some claims to the distinction of being the original discoverers, and teachers of the Phoenicians. Recent researches, however, satisfy most of the scholars that the Egyptians were the inventors of letters, more than 3000 years B. C.

All systems of writing are pictorial in their origin, and hence Phoenician is not an exception to the rule. The word alphabet is composed of alpha and beta, the names of the two first letters of the Greek alphabet, and these again of the Phoenician, which are still the names of the first two letters in the Hebrew alphabet. Aleph means "an ox," and beth means "house." The Phoenicians perceived some likeness between the letters and the pictures of an ox head and a house, and the memory of the Phoenician child may have been aided by the comparison, but in our early school days it was supposed we could learn our letters more easily if we were told, "A is the hunter who shot at a bird. B is the house where you once lived. The old Phoenicians must have considered the alphabet as so many pictures of things. The Egyptians had a pictorial system of writing. The Phoenicians had much commercial dealings with them, and for the purposes of commerce, they acquainted themselves with the method of writing and devised the Phoenician method as a kind of short hand method for business purposes, and the art of alphabetic writing was by them introduced into Asia from African Egypt.

Mail carrier's horses are proverbially very rough looking specimens. They are generally old "plugs" which "eat their heads off" about six times as often as valuable horses. When you take into consideration the work they each do, you wonder they have kept up so well. Say they each average nine hundred miles a month. They would cross the continent in about three months, and a horse that did that, would be expected to show a little wear and tear.

A little girl's father had a round bald spot. Kissing him at bed time not long ago she said, "stoop down, popsy; I want to kiss the place where the living shows."

Ignorance is said to be bliss, but it puts one to considerable inconvenience sometimes to carry too large a supply of this kind of bliss.

The best means of destroying an enemy is to make him your friend.

Douglass Sentenced.

Last Friday morning, in the Circuit Court, Judge Campbell overruled the motion for a new trial, submitted by the counsel for Douglass, and then and there sentenced the prisoner to confinement in the State penitentiary for the term of his natural life, in accordance with the verdict of the jury. The Judge, however, granted a suspension of the sentence for forty days to allow counsel for Douglas an opportunity to make out the record and apply for an appeal. Few, if any, who heard the evidence, entertain a doubt that the prisoner fired the shot which put an end to the life of poor Tom Reed. But without commenting particularly upon the verdict, which we think is fully sustained by the evidence, we again take occasion to impress upon the young men of the county the lesson this case so forcibly teaches, showing the folly and danger of carrying deadly weapons concealed about the person. Douglas started out last Christmas morning with a number of his young friends for a day of fun and frolic. According to the proof, at least three of these young men, of whom Douglas was one, had pistols in their pockets, which, during the day, they amused themselves in shooting off, much to the annoyance of the law abiding people of the vicinage. Had they all left their pistols at home that morning Tom Reed—a quiet, inoffensive man—would not have been brutally murdered and Kenos Douglass, instead of being in jail under sentence of confinement for life in a State prison, would now be at liberty enjoying the comforts of his home, the society of his friends and the free air of the mountains.

Young men of Greenbrier, we beg you to consider that in carrying pistols or other deadly weapons concealed about your persons you are violating the laws of your State, laying yourselves liable to indictment and prosecuting and running the risks of getting yourselves into just such troubles as that in which young Douglass now finds himself. If you will persist in this unlawful practice, for which there can be no justification or excuse in a civilized country like this, then we invoke the juries and the courts to visit upon you the full penalties of the law you violate.—Greenbrier Independent.

The Petrified Forests of Arizona.

In one of the meetings of the American Forestry Association held in Brooklyn lately Dr. Horace C. Hovey, of Newburyport Massachusetts, showed by specimens and by views the petrified forests of Arizona. This great tract of agatized wood, at least 2,000 acres extent, is near the station, of Corizzo and Adamans on the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, in Arizona, and resembles an immense logging camp with huge trunks thrown about. The largest are ten feet in diameter, many of them severed as evenly as though cut up by a cross-cut saw, and the sections vary from disk like cartwheels to logs thirty and more feet long. Many of the petrified logs have been broken into glittering fragments by action of the weather and by Indians and tourists, and at every footfall the traveler steps upon a mosaic of carnelian, agate, jasper, topaz, onyx and amethyst. A petrified trunk 150 feet long spans a canon, and is known as the Agate Bridge. The name Chalcedony Park has been given to the tract. Curiosity hunters, manufacturers and speculators are rapidly destroying its beauties, and recently a company proceeded to pulverize the chips and logs, the powder to be used in place of emery. Car loads of the petrified wood are being shipped away for this use, and Dr. Hovey advocates the saving and protection of these dead forests in a public reservation by the government.—Scientific American

Be satisfied with doing well and leave others to speak of you as they will.